

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 EUR-25 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SS-15

NSC-10 L-03 OC-06 CCO-00 RSR-01 /103 W  
----- 039787

R 072000 Z JUN 73

FM AMCONSUL CURACAO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1355

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS CURACAO 343

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, NA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - SERVICE TO SINT MAARTEN

REFERENCE: STATE 107565

FOR KELLY - ARA/ LA/ CAR

1. MINISTER CHANCE TODAY INFORMED ME THAT HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED THE OFFICIAL APPLICATION FOR THE SIX PAA CHARTER BOEING 707 FLIGHTS TO SINT MAARTEN IN SEPTEMBER 1 973 BUT THAT PERHAPS IT WAS IN HIS OFFICE AND HAD NOT BEEN BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTION.
  2. MINISTER CHANCE STATED THAT HE WOULD WELCOME PAN AM FLIGHTS TO SINT MAARTEN IN OCTOBER OR AS SOON AS THE AIRPORT IS COMPLETED. HE SAID EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IS BEING DONE TO COMPLETE THE AIRPORT IN OCTOBER. HE SAID AT THE PRESENT THAT ALM PILOTS ( IN KLM PLANES) WERE FLYING IN DC- 8 AIRPLANES TO SINT MAARTEN BUT ONLY WITH CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS ON WEIGHT AND LANDING HOURS. HE SAID HE ONLY PERMITTED THIS BECAUSE OTHERWISE THERE WOULD BE NO FLIGHTS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND SINT MAARTEN, WHICH WERE SO IMPORTANT TO TOURISM FOR THAT ISLAND. HE SAID ANOTHER FACTOR IN PERMITTING THE ALM PILOTS TO BRING IN THE KLM PLANES WAS BECAUSE THEY WERE EXPERIENCED WITH THE CONDITIONS ON THE SINT MAARTEN RUNWAY.
  3. HE STATED HE WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY
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FOR PAN AM 707 OR OTHER FOREIGN AIRCRAFT TO LAND ON THE AIR STRIP IN ITS CURRENT CONDITION BUT THAT IF PAN AM HAD 727 RPT 727 AIRCRAFT, OR SMALLER, AVAILABLE HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO PERMIT THEIR CHARTER FLIGHTS PRIOR TO THE COMPLETION OF THE RUNWAY.

4. MINISTER CHANCE ADDED THAT AMONG MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS WERE INADEQUATE FIRE CONTROL AND LIGHTING FACILITIES. HE SAID HE LACKED TWO FIRE ENGINES AND THE MONEY TO BUY THEM. HE MENTIONED HE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IF THERE WAS ANY WAY IN WHICH THE USG COULD ASSIST THE GNA IN OBTAINING THEM. I TOLD HIM I THOUGHT THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF THIS. (IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT APPLICATION ALREADY HAS BEEN MADE TO HOLLAND FOR THIS ASSISTANCE UNDER THEIR AID PROGRAM.)

5. THE CONGEN IS OF THE OPINION THAT MINISTER CHANCE'S STAND ON THIS MATTER IS REASONABLE. THE CONGEN HAS INFORMATION THAT HE IS SUPPORTED BY THE NA CIVIL AVIATION EXPOS WHO HAVE RESPONSIBILITY IN THE MATTER.

6. IT TOOK TWO DAYS FOR THE CONGEN WITH ITS CURRENT COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT, AND HEAVY PRIORITY TRAFFIC TO BREAK REFTEL. IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED, UNTIL RELIEF IS RECEIVED, IF ALL FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS SUCH AS REFTEL CAN BE SENT UNCLASSIFIED. LOFTON

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 STATE 107565, FOR KELLY - ARA/ LA/ CAR  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** collinp0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15-Oct-2001 by phillir0>; APPROVED <25-Jan-2002 by collinp0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980210  
**Subject:** CIVAIR - SERVICE TO SINT MAARTEN  
**TAGS:** ETRN, NA  
**To:** EB  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
THE HAGUE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005